

LITERARY.

BOSTON NOTES.

FEATURES OF OLD AND NEW.—THE OUTCRY AGAINST REPORTERS.—THE FATE OF THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.

FROM A REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.

BOSTON, Sept. 14.—"Old and New," for October, is first of the magazines in the field. Mr. Hale opens it with a well deserved talk about the brutal curiosity of reporters. The "fifteen dollars a week" men, as Mr. Parton calls a certain class of newspaper workers, claim that the country "has a right" to know this and that; and so they look into every man's safe, listen at doors, stand uneasily on barrel tops, and gaze into windows, and then publish the result of these well-bred investigations. They tell us that Charles Sumner always insisted on paying his own carfare, as if that were an extraordinary trait of character; and they tell us a great many less creditable things. Because a man calls himself a reporter or a detective, have other men no rights which he is bound to respect? Because a man must tell, and means to tell, the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth when he is on the witness stand, and questioned by some one having righteous authority, does it follow that he must open his mouth so to any impertinent person who chooses on some pretext of journalism or police business to ask him a question? They say an "interviewer" has been knocked down, in Chicago, by the man whom he attempted to "interview"; and Mr. Hale hopes that this is true. As to the rank offence of such impertinence, he says:

We can no better language than that of a newspaper as widely read as THE NEW-YORK TRIBUNE:

The baseness of asking impudent questions is as glaring as the baseness of answering them. Nothing is more degrading to personal character is seen from what journals of a certain class compehensively call "reportorial curiosity." The typical instance of this is the way in which the press of Boston drew the line between legitimate news and vulgarity to the last.

This introductory talk is followed by a characteristic story from Mr. Hale, entitled "The Lost Palace"—the "Palace" being a palace car, lost in a reckless leap, by an engineer who undertook to "dry" a ravine. "Our Sketching Club" goes on; so does "The Way We Live Now"—and the "linked sweetness" of them both seems to me too long drawn out. It is a serious temptation to any man to write a serial with the sense upon him of the more copy the more pay. J. Bishop Putnam writes entertainingly of "King Making in the Sandwich Islands;" and comes, in the end, to the conclusion that the Islanders cannot keep the peace without foreign assistance; and, since within ten years a foreign flag will undoubtedly fly there, he wonders whether Uncle Sam will prefer it shall be his own, or that of some other nation.

A paper, long, able, and deserving thoughtful consideration, is that on "The Relations of the Nations and State Governments to Advanced Education." It was read before the National Educational Association, at Detroit, Aug. 5, 1874, and we are here presented, from the author's manuscript, with a much fuller report than has before appeared. The address is an energetic plea for public assistance in the higher walks of education. Besides these articles, are "Pilchards," a pleasant love story, by Mary J. Penwitt; two or three poems not especially noticeable, and the excellent reviews of the "Examiner." In the Fine Art Notes we are reminded how we not only see nature through artists, but how we learn to see artists, or at least to be reminded of them, when we look at nature. A sturdy growth of oaks with muscular figures in front of them, will remind us of Courbet. A colorless but luminous morning of early Spring suggests Corot. Men and women in the field, bending their intelligence to the patience of the eye, make us think of Millet, who has taught us the pathetic dignity of labor. Wm. Hunt, by the way, calls Millet "the greatest painter in Europe." Florida crooks have found in this same Wm. Hunt their first interpreter. La Farge has learned Newport by heart, and now we think of him when we look across the bay lowlands toward the sea. Landscapes live again on the painter's canvass—it is only quid pro quo that the painter should haunt us while we look on the scenes from which his inspiration was drawn. L. C. M.

MISCELLANEOUS.

"Every Saturday" for the last week contains full Prof. Tyndall's address before the British Association at Belfast, which has produced so profound an impression. Next week will come Prof. Tyndall's address given shortly after, hardly less famous than the former.

Noyes, Holmes & Co. announce for October: "Sermons and Songs of the Christian Life," by the Rev. E. H. Scars, D. D., author of the "Heart of Christ," &c.; "Thoughts to Help and Cheer"; "The Stars and the Earth, or, Thoughts on Space, Time, and Eternity," fourth edition, with an Introduction, by the Rev. Thomas Hill, D. D.; "The Reasonableness and Efficacy of Prayer," by Newman Hall, D. D.; "Concordance of the Word of God in the Holy Bible," How It Works," by Henry M. Dexter, fourth edition, greatly enlarged.

"The United States Official Postal Guide," which Hurd & Houghton are to issue on the 1st of October, will be a book that will save merchants and others a great deal of time and labor. It will give a complete alphabetical list of all the Post-Offices in the United States, and another list of all the post-offices arranged by counties in the respective States; a list of post-offices in each next mail will come with Prof. Tyndall's address given shortly after, hardly less famous than the former.

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Dr. McCoys' new book, "The Scottish Philosopher, Biographical, Expository, Critical, from Hutchison to Hamilton," will be ready early next month, by Robert Carter & Brothers. Prominent in the list of names are biographical sketches of Francis Hutchison, David Hume, Adam Smith, Henry Home (Lord Kames), Thomas Reid, James Beattie, Adam Ferguson, Dugald Stewart, Archibald Alison, Thomas Brown, Francis Jeffrey, Sir James Mackintosh, Lord Brougham, Thomas Chalmers, Prof. Wilson, and Sir William Erskine. Dr. McCoys' book on English speaking public, British and American, has been listening to divers forms of philosophy—to Coleridge, to Kant, to Cousin, to Hegel, to Comte, to Berkley, and now in due course to Spencer, and so on. It is surely possible that it may grant a hearing to the sober philosophy of Scotland. I have tried to make my work a contribution to what may be regarded as a new department of science or of thought which is now becoming so important as the history of war, of commerce, of literature, or of civilization."

Mr. Whittaker has in press a work by the Rev. William Stevens Perry, D. D., entitled "A Handbook of the General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church, from the year 1785 to 1874." It will contain sketches of the Preliminary Conventions, and a concise account of every session of General Convention, from the first, noting the principal matters from time to time engrossing the attention of this important body, and giving detail the measures of permanent interest adopted. Among the subjects which will receive attention will be found, "the annals of the independent organization of the American Church; the efforts for securing the Episcopacy of the Mother Church; the efforts of the English Church to secure the adoption of the proposed Book," erroneously called the Bishop White Prayer Book, with the alterations therein; "notices of the steps attending the adoption of the Constitution of the Church; the early history of the Hierarchy; the progress of Common Prayer, with notices of all subsequent changes; the union of the Northern and Southern Churches in 1789; "the first American Convocation;" "the History of the Clergy; "the War of Secession; and also in preparation, to be published in the coming year. Our Heritage of Prayer," a series of Essays on the Liturgy of the American Church," by the Rev. Dr. Perry; to be uniform in style and price with "Life Lessons from the Book of Proverbs," by the same author, which has already reached its third edition.

New Publications.

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